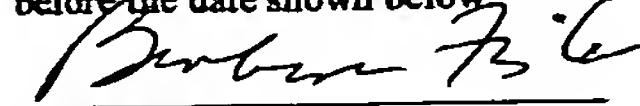


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Barbara Fisher
Date: May 25, 2006

AP9 Rec'dPCT/PTO 25 MAY 2006

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT International Application of)
SAVIGNAT, Jean-Michel, Claude, Gaston, et. al.)
Int. Appln No.: PCT/EP2004/053125)
Intl. Filing Date: 26 November 2004)
DRILL BIT WITH PROTECTION MEMBER) May 25, 2006

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Box PCT (DO/EO/US)
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Prior to taking up the case for examination, please amend the application as follows: